(d) what steps have been taken to meet out the requirement of residential staff quarters in both department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of i he House.

प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों के सम्मान में स्मारक डाक टिकट जारी करना

2515. श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जिनके सम्मानस्वरूप वर्ष 1993 में स्मारक डाक-टिकट जारी किये जाने का निर्णय किया गया है;

(ख) उन व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जिनके सम्मान में स्मारक डाक-टिकट पहले ही जारी किये जा चुके हैं और ये व्यक्ति किन-किन क्षेत्रों में ख्याति प्राप्त हैं ; और

(ग) क्या पदम भूषण से पुरस्कृत साहित्यकार डा० वृंदावन लाल वर्मा के सम्मान में कोई स्मारक डाक-टिकट जारी किया गया है अथवा जारी किये जाने का निर्णय किया गया है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) (1) विलियम कैरे (2) फकीर मोहन सेनापति (3) राहुल सांकृत्यायन (4) अब्दुल गफ्फार खान (5) सत्यजीत राय (6) पी.सी. महालानोबिस (7) द्वारम वेंकटस्वामी नायडू (8) डा० डी.एन. कोटनीस (9) रानी-रासमणि (10) दीनानाथ मंगेशकर ।

(ख) (i) विलियम कैरे – शिक्षा तथा समाज सुधार (ii) फकीर मोहन सेनापति—साहित्य

(ग) जी, नहीं ।

Technologies to be adopted by the DOT

2516. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRI-DHAR PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any chaos and confusion regarding the number of technologies to be adopted by the DOT;

(b) whether it is a fact that this has lead to non-achievement of the targeted telephone connections; and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken by the DOT to overcome this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Doo not arise, in view of (a) above.

STD and MSTD facilities in Punjab

2517. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the cities in Punjab which are connected with the national capital by STD and MSTD, respectively;

(b) whether Government propose to provide such facilities in some more cities of Punjab; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Ludhiana, Amritsar, Jalandhar, Patiala, Bhatinda, Pathankot, Hoshiarpur, Moga & Abohar are the cities having

STD facility. Batala is having MSTD facility.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Batala, which is having MSTD facility is proposed to be linked with STD tacility during 1393.

Self-reliance in Telecommunication Equipments

2518. SHRI ASHIS SEN:

SHRl MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requested the World Bank ior suggestions on the status 01 the telecommunications in *the* country and its future policy of self-reliance in telecommunication equipments;

(b) if so, whether the world body has advised on the issue; (and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The World Bank has undertaken a Study of Indian Telecom Sector focussing upon the broader reform issues, with suggestions of possible approaches to change:

(b) and (c) Suggestions made by World Bank for possible approaches to change in Telecom Sector are given in the Statement.

Statement

An independent "Policy Board" is to be formed, comprising of governmental iand non-governmental members with the task of drawing mp overall policy frame and monitor its adjustment and implementation.

A "Regulatory Authority" independent of operating units, should be established to oversee operating/purchasing agreements, inter connection practices and where monopoly service elements exist, provide a price regulation 'function.

The "Operating Units" should be discrete entities, with a corporate structure that allows financial autonomy. These separate regional entitles will have discretion in Technology choices, sourcing of equipment and range of subscriber services offered. They would operate under a licensed regime granted by the "Regulating Authority" and in a manner consistent with overall economic policy and impose tariff schedules in accordance with guidelines imposed by the 'Regulating Authority".

The existing research activities in India's Telecom Network should be viewed as complementary to international technology developments and not as a substitute. Autosomy must be given to Operating Units to choose the type of equipment considered most suitable to fulfil subscriber needs.

The procurement of Telecom equipment should be based on more competitive bidding processes. Tariffs on inputs and final products should be lowered. Both HCL. and ITI need to be restructured in conjunction with a dilution of public sector share holding.

Replacement of Telephone Exchange at Narwana in Haryana

2519. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proiposal to replace the present faulty Telephone Exchange of Narwtana in Haryana where machinery has become obsolete and requires electronic equipment;

(b) if so, by when the electronic equipment is likely to be commissioned there; and